

An Inventive Yankee

A Story of the Days of
Pirates

By DONALD CHAMBERLIN

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More than a hundred years ago young Captain Herbert Chandler sailed his ship, the Wasp, into a cove on the shores of the island of Jamaica, cast anchor and sent boats ashore with casks for water. While waiting their return two vessels appeared on the sea, the one a clumsy brigantine, the other a low cut, rakish craft with enormous sails. Chandler brought his guns to bear on the two ships and was not long in determining that one was a merchantman, the other a Spanish pirate, and the pirate was chasing the merchantman. The former flew no flag, but the captain knew only too well that she was a pirate and if the wind held would overtake the merchantman.

This was at a time when piracy had been almost entirely swept from the West Indies, and few merchant ships had means of opposing the villains. Chandler could see no evidence of guns aboard the brigantine, and he had but one little barter on his own ship. He had no women aboard, but judged from the size and build of the merchantman that she might have passengers.

But the wind was very light, and what there was was dying down. The sun was near the western horizon, and it had no sooner set than the last traces of a breeze set with it. The two vessels, now about three miles apart, stood still, their sails flapping as the swells rolled under them. Chandler began to take thought how he might save both his own and the other ship from the pirate. He had some small arms aboard, but no guns except the one mentioned, while, though the portholes in the pirate were masked, he knew that she must be well armed with cannon. His small arms would be of no use against her.

Chandler ran over in his mind what he had aboard that he might use in a fight and remembered that he was carrying among other things for blasting purposes in the Mexican mines a fulminating powder used in those days. But what use could be made of this against the cannon balls of the pirate?

Chandler was a Yankee, and the Yankees even at that remote period were famed for their shrewdness and inventive genius. He formed a plan to attack the pirate with fulminating powder. Noting the positions of the ships with his compass, he waited till midnight; then, putting a crew in each of two boats, he weighed anchor and ordered them to tow the Wasp out to sea, his object being to get between the two vessels. Neither ship displayed a light, but a faint glimmer of cabin lights was perceptible on the pirate. Chandler stopped when he thought he might be in the proper position. He did not cast anchor, for the sound would betray him, and he was not ready to let the pirate know of his proximity.

When the first faint dawn came Chandler saw that the Wasp, the pirate and the merchantman occupied the three angles of a triangle. He was pleased to see that he was nearer the pirate than the merchantman, for if the former attacked the latter before attacking the Wasp Chandler could afford no assistance. His plan did not admit of this. All three ships had their sails hoisted ready to take advantage of the slightest breeze. As soon as there was sufficient light the pirate displayed the skull and crossbones from her peak and sent a shot before the bow of the Wasp. Chandler, understanding this as a demand for surrender, returned from his portgun a shot no bigger than a boy's rubber ball. He did this that the pirate might attack him with his ship instead of sending boats to take possession without a fight.

With the rising of the sun a ripple was seen coming on the water, and a breeze came with it. It caught the pirate first, and she approached the Wasp, running out her guns as she did so, but not daring her prey it was plain that there was no armament aboard, and she ran them in again.

The critical moment had come. Chandler stood on the quarterdeck awaiting his enemy, occasionally casting a glance at a man partially concealed aloft on that end of the gaff swung from the mainmast. The breeze had reached the Wasp and filled her sails, enabling the helmsman to keep the vessel before it with some headway. When the bowsprit of the pirate came within a cable's length of the Wasp, Chandler gave an order to lower the sails. The pirate lapped the Wasp and was making ready to grapple and board when a signal was given that turned the tables. Chandler raised his hand. Men concealed under the bulwarks pulled on a line fastened to the end of the gaff, swinging it over the side next the pirate. The man above, carrying a demijohn, nimbly crawled out on it, raising a position nearly over the pirate, now not twenty feet from the Wasp. Giving the demijohn a swing, he tossed it on the pirate's deck.

There was an explosion that blew the little pirate so far apart that the water rushing into the gaps in her sides, sunk her within two minutes, leaving her men floating in the water. They were mercilessly picked off by the sailors on the Wasp.

The conquering ship was badly injured, but all damages were paid for by the owners of the merchantman, loaded with a valuable cargo and a number of passengers, including women and children.

Procrastinate.
Teacher—What is the meaning of the word "procrastinate"?
Pupil—To put off.
Teacher—Right. Illustrate it in a sentence.
Pupil—I tried to steal a ride on a street car yesterday, but I was procrastinated.—Tommy Biddle.

"PORK BARREL"
INFLUENCE

It is Powerful in Getting Federal Buildings.

SOME INTERESTING FIGURES

Some Thriving Places Have No Post Office Buildings, While Other Sleepy Towns Have Costly Federal Structures.

Washington, D. C., June 11.—As kisses go by favor, so public buildings go by "pull."

That is the opinion of treasury department officials, and they have prepared statistics to sustain their position.

What is more, they are trying to formulate a plan, by means of which senatorial and congressional influence will not be the only reason for the expenditure of public money in the construction of government buildings. They think that such appropriations should be based upon the practical necessities of the case, rather than upon the possible number of votes which the securing of the building may bring to the member who introduced the bill.

Just as there is now an effort to bring the river and harbor appropriations out of the domain of politics, and systematize them so as to bring the best and most lasting effects for the commerce of the country, so should there be, in their opinion, a well-defined program governing the erection of post offices and courthouses in the different states and cities.

The department has not progressed far in outlining its proposed plan, nor is there any promise that, if it had, the members of Congress would willingly forego their annual or biennial scramble over this "pork barrel." It is the opinion of the treasury officials, however, that something more than the population or wealth of a town should be taken into consideration when passing upon the question as to whether it is entitled to a public building.

Other things that should be considered, according to the treasury men, are the character of the business transacted in each place and the government revenues collected. Thus, a manufacturing town, or one in which there is a thriving revenue-producing business, ought to take precedence over a quiet, residential town or suburb, even though the latter can show a preponderance of wealth.

Still another item is the question of illiteracy in a community, it being obvious that, where a large proportion of the inhabitants are unable to read or write, the postal receipts will not be so great as in a smaller place, where education is more widely diffused.

Since 1810, the first record of the construction of a public building by the government, there has been expended \$298,210,684 in the purchase of sites and the erection of buildings to house the various government offices throughout the country. Of this amount, New York has received 10.53 per cent; Massachusetts, 5.30 per cent; Pennsylvania, 7.21 per cent; Ohio, 5.68 per cent; Illinois, 5.47 per cent; California, 5.18 per cent, and Missouri, 4.88 per cent.

Taking the wealth and population of the several states as a basis for calculation, there is, proportionally, still due to New York \$6,441,277; Pennsylvania, \$7,450,504; Illinois, \$8,545,928; Ohio, \$9,302,370; Texas, \$9,620,089; Iowa, \$3,587,436; and New Jersey, \$3,484,016. Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kansas, Arkansas and Oklahoma are all more than \$2,000,000 below their appropriations upon this basis. Mississippi, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, Alabama and Mississippi are all more than \$1,000,000 below.

On the other hand, Louisiana has received an excess on that same basis of \$1,281,773; Maine, \$1,169,931; Colorado, \$1,098,819; South Carolina, \$789,736; and California, \$444,803. There is a disposition to assign as the reason for these excesses the fact that the Democratic votes of the two Louisiana senators generally have been greatly desired by the Republican party; that Senators Hale and Frye throughout their long terms have never overlooked the wants of their state; and that Senator Perkins of California has been a member of one of the appropriation committees for a number of years.

A list has been prepared, showing 233 cities, with a population of more than 5,000 in 1900, which have no post office buildings, and a list of the postal office buildings at the close of 1909. Here are a few at random from the long list, with the receipts collected: Santa Barbara, Cal., \$44,943; Stamford, Conn., \$97,395 (bill introduced this session); Urbana, Ill., \$28,091; Shelbyville, Ind., \$23,451; Wallham, Mass., \$54,887; Leominster, Mass., \$32,891; Fort Miami, Mich., \$68,134; East Orange, N. J., \$82,577; Passaic, N. J., \$80,869; New

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Rochelle, N. Y., \$66,768; Elvira, O., \$44,043; Piqua, O., \$37,050; Warren, Pa., \$134,972; and Tyrone, Pa., \$63,330.

Then there is another list of 145 cities with a population of 5,000 and less in 1900, which have public buildings, which makes an interesting comparison with the preceding examples. The postal receipts for the year 1909. Harrison, Ark., has a \$100,000 building, receipts \$780; Hope, Ark., a \$80,000 building, receipts \$1,891; London, Ky., \$103,000 building, receipts \$1,891; Devil's Lake, N. D., \$100,000 building, receipts \$4,344; Florence, S. C., \$100,000 building, receipts \$2,241; Deadwood, S. Dak., \$212,000 building, receipts \$5,081; Pierre, S. D., \$175,000, receipts \$3,407; Greenville, Tenn., \$110,000 building, receipts \$2,593; Big Stone Gap, Va., \$100,000 building, receipts \$931; Port Townsend, Wash., \$281,000 building, receipts \$2,971; and Lander, Wyo., \$122,000 building, receipts \$806.

These are only a few instances of the situation attributed by treasury officials to "political pull." They argue that the showing is sufficient to make it desirable that some definite plan should be worked out to cover the erection of buildings in the future.

INTERESTING FACTS
FROM WASHINGTON

John Barrett Thinks That Esperanto Will Be Taken Up Rapidly in the United States.

Washington, June 11.—That the international Esperanto congress to be held in Washington August 14 to 20, inclusive, will result in the study of Esperanto being taken up rapidly in the principal colleges and universities throughout the United States, is the belief of John Barrett, director of the bureau of American republics.

In an interview, Barrett expressed his conviction that the wide-spread demand for the study of Esperanto in this country following the congress will be pronounced and that the language will take its place side by side with that of other tongues taught in the principal educational institutions.

"With the completion of the Panama canal," said Barrett, "the bringing together of the nations in closer trade relations, and the constantly increasing tendency on the part of Americans to visit abroad, the useful-ness which Esperanto, as an auxiliary language, can be made to serve will become more and more apparent in this country."

Director Barrett is president of the Esperanto Association of North America. He probably will preside over the international congress during its sessions in Washington.

Preliminary work on the Rio Grande, New Mexico-Texas, reclamation project soon will be under way, preparing the site for actual construction work on the great Eagle dam, scheduled to be started in July, 1911. This project will provide for the reclamation of 180,000 acres of land lying in New Mexico, Texas and old Mexico. The entire cost of the work is estimated at approximately \$9,000,000. The Eagle dam, the most important engineering feature of the project, when completed, will probably be the most remarkable structure of its kind in the world. It will relieve, from the recently completed Roosevelt dam in Arizona, the capacity of the reservoir, created by it, will be almost double that of the famous Arizona storage plant.

The earliest rights to the use of water on the Rio Grande were Mexico's, the inhabitants of that country having utilized for hundreds of years extensive areas in the valley by irrigation. For many years there was an international, as well as an interstate, controversy over the right to the waters of the river, which at one time threatened to affect the amiable relations of the two countries.

By treaty ratified by both nations in 1907, an adjustment of the differences was effected. The United States agreed that a quantity of water sufficient to supply the lands formerly irrigated in Mexico should be permitted to pass the

boundary, in return for which Mexico canceled the claims, which she had been presenting for years, on account of the loss of valuable property.

Congress appropriated \$1,000,000 from the treasury to cover the cost of storage for Mexico, the remaining cost of the project to be paid from the reclamation fund and reimbursed by the landowners in New Mexico and Texas after the completion of the work. Shortly after Congress ratified the treaty with Mexico, the attention of home-seekers was turned to this village and as a result nearly all of the public lands embraced in the project have been taken up.

It has been decided by Secretary of Agriculture Wilson that oysters caught in salt water and then placed in fresh water to mature must be labeled "float-oyster" or they will be considered adulterated under the pure food and drugs act. The new decision was the result of the many briefs and rumors of evidence submitted since the food inspection decision No. 110, on the practice of "floating" or drinking oysters in water of less saline content than that in which they were originally caught.

The practice of floating oysters is old. The young oysters are caught in the sea and brought inland, where they are placed in fresh water. The effect of the fresh water is to enhance greatly the size and weight of the oyster, but at the same time it detracts from the succulence of the bivalve. It has been stated

BABY WASTED TO
A MERE SKELETON

With Terrible Eruptions—Grew Worse in Spite of Doctors—Would Scratch and Tear Flesh Unless Hands were Tied—Mother Says

HE WOULD HAVE DIED
BUT FOR CUTICURA

"My little son, when about a year and a half old, began to have sores come out on his face. I had a physician call, and he said that the sores were eczema. Then they began to come on his arms, then on other parts of his body, and then one came on his chest, worse than the others. Then I called another physician. Still he grew worse. At the end of about a year and a half of suffering he grew so bad that I had to tie his hands in cloth at night to keep him from scratching the sores and tearing the flesh. He got to be a mere skeleton. I used only one cake of Cuticura Soap and about three boxes of Ointment.

"I am a nurse and my profession brings me into many different families and it is always a pleasure for me to tell my story and recommend Cuticura Remedies. Mrs. Egbert Sheldon, R. F. D. 1, Leitchfield, Conn., Oct. 23, 1909."

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Form of Itchy Skin. Cuticura Soap, Cuticura Ointment, Cuticura Tablets. Cuticura Tablets (20) to be used with Cuticura Soap. The use of Cuticura Tablets is to be continued until the skin is free from all itching. Cuticura Tablets are sold in boxes of 20 and 50. Price, 25c and 50c. Sold by all druggists. Cuticura Soap, Cuticura Ointment, Cuticura Tablets. Cuticura Tablets (20) to be used with Cuticura Soap. The use of Cuticura Tablets is to be continued until the skin is free from all itching. Cuticura Tablets are sold in boxes of 20 and 50. Price, 25c and 50c. Sold by all druggists.

"The slump has been a severe financial blow to the farmers in the north of the province."

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Magazine Review

And the Cat Came Back.

My friend "They say the streets in Boston are frightfully crooked!"
Mr. Hub: "They are. Why, do you know, when I first went there I could hardly find my way around."
"That must be embarrassing!"
"It is. The first week I was there I wanted to get rid of an old cat we had, and my wife got me to take it to the river a mile away."
"And you lost the cat all right?"
"Lost nothing! I never would have found my way home I hadn't followed the cat!"—Everybody's Magazine.

Their Fingers Were Sticky.

Commenting on the comparatively small salaries allowed by Congress for services rendered in the executive branch of the government and the more liberal pay of some of the officials, a man in public life said:
"It reminds me of the way a gang of laborers used to be paid down my way. The money was thrown at a ladder, and what stuck to the rungs went to the workers, while that which fell through went to the bosses."—Everybody's Magazine.

The Burden of Wealth.

One spring, for some reason, old Eli was going round town with a face of dissatisfaction, and, when questioned, he poured forth his voluble tale of woe. "Marse George, he come to me last fall an' he say, 'Eli, de gwine ter be a hard winter, so yo' be keeful, an' save yo' wages fas' an' tight.' An' I believe Marse George, yass sah, I believe him, an' I save an' I save, an' when de winter come I ain't got no hardelin' an' dere was I wid all dat money jes' frown on mah hands!"—Everybody's Magazine.

No one planning a vacation should fail to study the pages of Suburban Life for June, which is the annual vacation number of that wide-awake viewpoint and from the matter of practical information this number is an exceptional one. Some of the special vacation features are as follows: "A Day with the Summer Boarder" (Illustrations by R. R. Sallows); "Vacation Days" (verse), by E. Irving Farrington; "My Vacation—How I Shall Spend It," by Arthur L. Bessing; "As to Vacation Clothes," by H. H. Johnson; "Camp Convalescence," by E. C. Downer; "Making the Most of the Motor Boat," by W. P. Stephens; "The Vacation Camera," by C. H. Claudy; "The Vacation Home" (two pages of practical suggestions); "The Woman Who Walks," by Louise Shrimpton; "A Vacation Afoul," by Margaret N. Nise. It should not be inferred, however, that this number is devoted exclusively to vacation topics; on the contrary, the subjects treated cover a wide range.

Strawberry Culture.

"Like asparagus, strawberry-beds should be established as soon as the family has settled in a country home," says Kate V. Saint-Maur in Woman's Home Companion for June, "because it takes a year to get a full crop. There are a great many varieties to choose from, but I think it is best to restrict selection to the old established kinds. The Marshall for first early, the Glen Mary for mid-season and the Gandy for late gathering. And truly I don't believe there can be a better selection for the home garden near New York."
"But, as some varieties do better than others in a certain locality, it is advisable to consult old residents in the neighborhood and the nurserymen who are so situated that they are slightly to the south, will produce the earliest berries, but we are convinced from experience that slightly heavier soil and a more northerly exposure produces a better fruit in mid-season. Our beds all slope to the south, but the late varieties are so situated that they are slightly shaded by a row of young pear-trees, which protects them from the direct rays of the sun. The soil is—or rather was—of ordinary quality, neither very sandy nor very heavy, so for several seasons we scattered fine coal-ashes between the rows of the early plants, which materially lightened the soil, and for several years we have had berries from five to ten days earlier than our neighbors."

Strawberry Culture.

"The slump has been a severe financial blow to the farmers in the north of the province."

Restful Sleep

comes after a bath with warm water and Glenn's Sulphur Soap. It allays irritation and leaves the skin soothed and refreshed. Used just before retiring, it induces quiet and restful sleep. Invaluable in the nursery. Sold by druggists generally. Always insist on

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